

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman
Doug Mood, Commissioner
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner
Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

All votes were left open for Commissioner Molnar.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(155) In the matter of Ravalli County Council on Aging dba Bitterroot Bus application for certificate of public convenience and necessity. Legislation under HB 273 would exempt this carrier from Commission regulation and has been signed into law. The carrier requests that this docket be closed and the application be withdrawn.

Commissioner Mood moved to close the docket and grant the withdrawal of the application. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

(156) In the matter of Ravalli County Council on Aging dba Bitterroot Bus request that PSC No. 9410 be cancelled effective immediately based upon HB 273, recently signed into law.

Commissioner Mood moved to cancel PSC No. 9410 effective immediately at carrier request. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

(157) In the matter of Lewis and Clark Transit System LLC, White Sulfur Springs, Montana request for suspension of PSC No. 9450 for a six month period, April 19, 2005 to October 19, 2005.

Commissioner Raney moved to suspend PSC No. 9450 at the request of the carrier. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

(158) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes:

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of April 18, 2005. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan- Utility Division
Monica Tranel- Legal Division

(159) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Range telephone and WWC Holding Co. reciprocal Interconnection, transport, and termination agreement- Docket No. D2005.1.11:

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the Reciprocal Interconnection, transport and termination agreement in Docket No.D2005.1.11 between Range Telephone Cooperative and WWC Holding Co. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan
Legal Division

(160) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a complaint from GRS Energy v. NWE and NWE development corp.

Commissioner Schneider moved to issue a notice of complaint to the NWE entities and require a response within 15 days, advising all parties that jurisdiction is at issue. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Commissioner Schneider moved that NWE entities are not required to respond to the data requests until the basic matter of jurisdiction is resolved. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Utility Division

(161) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of staff out-of-state travel. The two travel requests are: (1) Gary Duncan's travel to Albuquerque, NM, May 15-20, for "The Basics" regulatory course where he will be an instructor, and (2) Joel Tierney's travel to Salt Lake City, June 6-10, for the Western Region of the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives meeting:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the travel requests for Gary Duncan and Joel Tierney. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GREG JERGESON, Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)